भूकंपीय सवेंक्षण किए गए हैं तथा कच्छ की खाड़ी, द्वारका समुद्रतट एवं कैम्बे की खाड़ी में अन्वेषण वेधन किया गया है । फिलहाल आयल इंडिया लिमिटेड सौराष्ट्र, अपतट में एक अन्वेषण कूप का भी वेधन कर रहा है ।

(ख) जी, हां । इस अवधि के दौरान सौराष्ट्र-कच्छ क्षेत्र के समुद्रतट से दूर क्षेत्रों में सवेंक्षण किए गए हैं ।

(ग) 1.4.94 की स्थिति के अनुसार ओ एन जी सी द्वारा कच्छ की खाड़ी तथा कैम्बे की खाड़ी में कुल 3.81 मि0 मी0 ट0 तेल तथा गैस के समतुल्य तेल (ओ0+ओईजी) के भूगर्भीय भंडार स्थापित हुए है ।

(घ) ओ एन जी सी द्वारा कच्छ और सौराष्ट्र अपतट के गहरे पानी में तथा दक्षिणी गुजरात के समुद्र तटीय क्षेत्र में भी भूकंपी आंकड़े अर्जित किए जा रहे हैं । कच्छ अपटत में मेसोजोइक प्रासपेक्ट्स में अन्वेषण के लिए ओ एन जी सी की भूकंपी आंकड़े के अर्जन करने की योजना है ।

अर्जित भूकंपी आंकड़ों के आधार पर आयल इंडिया लिमिटेड ने अनेक वेधन योग्य संरचनाओं का भी पता लगाया है तथा कच्छ सौराष्ट्र अपतट में प्रथम चरण में तीन अन्वेषण कूपों के वेधन की योजना बनायी है । एक कूप का वेधन किया जा रहा है ।

इसके अतिरिक्त, भारत सरकार निजी कंपनियों को अन्वेषण के लिए ब्लाक का प्रस्ताव कर रही है समुद्रतटीय क्षेत्रों में पांचवें दौर के अंतर्गत एक ब्लाक दिया गया है । छठें दौर में कैम्बे अपतट में 2 ब्लाकों तथा गुजरात-कच्छ में एक ब्लाक एवं सौराष्ट्र में एक ब्लाक के लिए बोलियां प्राप्त की गयी हैं । सातवें दौर में सौराष्ट्र अपतट में एक ब्लाक के लिए बोली दी गयी है । संयुक्त उद्य दौरों में 5 ब्लाकों का प्रस्ताव किया गया है ।

Incidents of Thefts and Crimes in Trains

443. SHRI BHAGABAN MAJHI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the increasing incidents of thefts and other crimes in the New Delhi, Nizammuddin-Orissa bound trains;

(b) whether such crimes are committed mostly in the periphery of the State of Bihar;

(c) if so, the steps taken to curb such crimes and to give proper protection to the train passengers; and

(d) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS: (SHRI P.M. SAYEED): (a) to (d) The registration, investigation, detection and prevention of crime in the trains is the responsibility of the Government Railway Police (G.R.P), which functions under the control of the respective State Governments/Union Territory Administrations. Information relating to train-wise thefts and other crimes on trains is not maintained by the Central Government.

Exploitation of Railway Lands

444. SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA:
DR. BAPU KALDATE:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether commercial exploitation of railway lands has started;

(b) if so, the details of locations thereof;

(c) the pros and cons of such exploitation; and

(d) how much money derived would be utilised?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Allocation of LPG to Gujarat

445. SHRI ANANDIBEN JETHABHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is acute shortage of LPG in Saurashtra Kutch Region of Gujarat State;

(b) if so, the states taken to enhance the allocation of LPG to the State; and

(c) the details of the LPG allocation originally proposed to be made and subsequently enhanced for the State during 1995-96?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPTAIN SATISH SHARMA): (a) to (c) The demand of the existing consumers of LPG in Gujarat, who are enrolled with the distributors of public sector oil companies, is by and large being met in full. Temporary backlogs that may arise are cleared by augmenting LPG supplies through operation of bottling plants for extended hours and on holidays and by arranging supplies from bottling plants in adjoining areas. LPG is not an allocated product and no advance allocation is made.

Introduction of Five Year Tax Holiday Scheme

446. SHRI RAJU BHAI A. PARMAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry of Railways have sought application of the Five Year Tax Holiday Scheme as applicable to various transport sector projects like the ports and highways; and

(b) if so, what precise decision has been taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. As per the Finance Bill, 1995, the five-year tax holiday scheme has been made applicable to investments in Railways also.

Food Processing Industries in Punjab

447. SHRI IQBAL SINGH: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total number of Food Processing Industries in the State of Punjab; Industry-wise;

(b) what is the number of employees working in these industries;

(c) what is the production capacity of each industry;

(d) whether Government are granting any assistance or loan facility to start a new food processing industry in the Punjab under the new Economic Policy; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) to (c) F«od Processing Industries are both in the organised and unorganised sectors. Information with respect to all food processing units State-wise is not maintained by this Ministry. However, as per the Annual Survey of Industries for 1991-92, there were 69 units in the factory sector in the State of Punjab employing 7079 persons and the value of total output of these units was Rs. 441 crores. Similarly, as per the All India Census of Small Scale units registered upto 31st March, 1988, there were 4156 units in the State of Punjab employing 21502 persons and the value of total output of these units was Rs. 583.64 crores.

(b) to (e) The Ministry under its Plan schemes extends financial assistance to State Government organisations/ cooperatives / voluntary organisations, etc. for setting up/expansion/modernisation of food processing units.

Fire in the forests of UP and HP

448. PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the forests in Uttar Pradesh and Himachal Pradesh have been on fire for long period this year destroying thousands of hectares of forest land;

(b) if so, what are the reasons for such devastating fires in forests and the effect